



## Office of Administration Governor's Council on Disability

2006-2007

### Missouri Journalism and Poster Contests

# “Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow”



Inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of school and community life leads to opportunity for both those with and without disabilities. When people with disabilities are included and welcomed it increases their opportunities to find employment, to give back to the community and to feel a part of the community. This also gives those without disabilities the chance to know, learn from and understand those who have a great deal to offer. Thus, **“Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow.”** That is the theme of the Missouri Poster and Journalism Contests for this year.

Webster's Dictionary defines inclusion as the act of including or the state of being included. Everyone wants to be included whether it is in a school setting, a work setting or a community setting. This includes people with disabilities. Unfortunately, many times people with disabilities are not included or do not feel included. This may be because of inaccessible buildings and facilities or the attitudes of non-disabled people. People with disabilities want to belong. People with disabilities are “people first”, who enjoy eating out, shopping, working, church, sports and entertainment events.



Through inclusion people with disabilities can enjoy the same aspects and activities of school and community life as those without disabilities enjoy. Through inclusion people without disabilities learn that people with disabilities are people first who enjoy the same things everyone else enjoys, who like to go to movies, go shopping, and participate in sports activities among other things. Inclusion also increases awareness of accessibility issues. Inclusion leads to opportunity.

Think about it. How would you improve inclusion of people with disabilities in your school and/or your community? If you could design a plan for full inclusion of people with disabilities in your community and your school what would your plan include? Look around you. Do you see any barriers, either physical, like steps, or attitudinal, to inclusion? How would you eliminate these barriers?



## Missouri Journalism Contest

### What we would like you to do:

We would like you to write a report telling us your ideas as to how inclusion of people with disabilities benefits everyone, both people with and without disabilities. Use the theme

**“Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow.”**

### Purpose:

To reward excellence in journalistic writing and to help young Missourians become aware of the need to eliminate negative attitudes toward people with disabilities. The program is open to **all** Missouri high school/middle school students grades 7 through 9 and 10 through 12.

### Contest Criteria and Rules: (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

1. All reports must be typewritten, double spaced on white 8 1/2" X 11" paper, must be in English, and not exceed three pages.
2. The report **MUST** cover the given theme for 2006 “Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow.”
3. Each report must identify all quotes, either within the body of the report, or as a footnote.

### Journalism Contest Prizes for each age group:

1st Place	\$500.00 Savings Bond
2nd Place	\$250.00 Savings Bond
3rd Place	\$100.00 Savings Bond

Additional prize drawings will be held for contest participants. Past prizes have included tickets to Six Flags, Worlds of Fun, Silver Dollar City, and Cardinal's and Royals' Baseball games, among others.

## Missouri Poster Contest

### What we would like you to do:

We would like you to design a poster depicting your ideas or plan for inclusion. Use the theme **“Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow.”** Show us how people with disabilities can be included in community activities, sports, school activities, so on. Use your imagination; just be sure the poster shows people with disabilities in a positive light.

### Purpose:

To interest high school students with a flair for art in creating posters on the subject of people with disabilities. The program is open to **all** high school/middle school students grades 7 through 9 and 10 through 12.

### Contest Criteria and Rules: (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

1. Paintings, drawings, photography, collages or any other two-dimensional medium or combination of media in color or black and white is acceptable. Entries must be prepared on a 12" X 16" sheet of illustration board.
2. The entered poster **MUST** deal with the theme for 2006 “Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow.”

### Poster Contest Prizes for each age group:

1st Place	\$500.00 Savings Bond
2nd Place	\$250.00 Savings Bond
3rd Place	\$100.00 Savings Bond

Additional prize drawings will be held for contest participants. Past prizes have included tickets to Six Flags, Worlds of Fun, Silver Dollar City, and Cardinal's and Royals' Baseball games, among others.

### Dates and Deadlines

**The deadline for the Journalism and Poster Contests is February 15, 2007.**

**All entries must be post-marked by this date\*.**

*Entries should be mailed to\*:*

Donna Borgmeyer, Disability Program Representative  
Governor's Council on Disability  
P.O. Box 1668  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1668

*For shipping delivery:*

Donna Borgmeyer  
Governor's Council on Disability  
301 West High Street, Room 250A  
Jefferson City, MO 65109

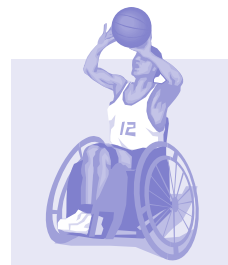


**For further information call: 800-877-8249 or 573-751-2600**  
**\* Essays may also be sent via e-mail to [donna.borgmeyer@oa.mo.gov](mailto:donna.borgmeyer@oa.mo.gov)**



## HINTS FOR A WINNING STYLE

**Put people first, not their disability.** Say, woman with arthritis, children who are deaf, people with disabilities. Avoid generic labels such as “the retarded,” “the deaf,” and “the handicapped.”



The word handicap is not a synonym for disability. It describes a condition or barrier imposed by society, the environment, or by one's own self. Handicap can be used when citing laws and situations but should not be used to describe a disability. Say “the stairs are a handicap for her.”



Use positive language, not sensationalized emotional terms. Avoid the phrases: victim of, afflicted, confined to, wheelchair-bound. Instead use “has polio,” “uses a wheelchair.”

However, do not go overboard trying to be positive. Physically challenged, handicapable, mentally different, physically inconvenienced are cutesy, artificial terms. They reinforce the idea that disabilities can not be dealt with up front.

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### OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR 2006-2007 JOURNALISM AND POSTER CONTESTS

(Please complete entirely or your entry may be disqualified.)

Student's Name

Home Address

City

State

Zip

Student's Home Phone

Grade

Age

School Name

Student's School Phone

School Address

City

State

Zip

Instructor's Name

Principal's Name

**PLEASE NOTE: All entries become the property of the Governor's Council on Disability**

**The deadline for the Journalism and Poster Contests is  
February 15, 2007**

**All entries must include this year's theme  
“Inclusion: Today and Tomorrow”**

**Visit us on the web at [www.gcd.ia.mo.gov](http://www.gcd.ia.mo.gov)**

Governor's Council on Disability  
301 West High Street, Room 250-A  
P. O. Box 1668  
Jefferson City, MO 65102